

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Spring 2021	Instructor Name:	Mr. Raul Navarro, MPA
Course Title & #:	POLS 102	Email:	raul.navarro@imperial.edu
CRN #:	20592	Webpage (optional):	N/A
Classroom:	N/A	Office #:	TBD
Class Dates:	Feb 16- June 11, 2021	Office Hours:	TBD
Class Days:	Monday/Wednesday	Office Phone #:	Elvia Camillo 760-355-6144
Class Times:	9:40 AM-11:05 AM	Emergency Contact:	Email instructor
Units:	3	Class Format:	Synchronous

Course Description

The origin, development, and operation of local, state, and national political institutions in the United States, emphasizing the contemporary operations of the American political system. (C-ID POLS 110)

Course Prerequisite(s) and/or Corequisite(s)

N/A

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

- 1. Develop an understanding of civic responsibility. (ILO3, ILO5).*
- 2. Participate in activities that promote the public good (e.g., the voting process, jury duty, community service). (ILO1, ILO3, ILO5).*
- 3. Examine the election and voting process. (ILO2, ILO4, ILO5)*

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

- 1. The significance of the Declaration of Independence concerning the American political philosophy.*
- 2. The Articles of Confederation and the principal reasons why they were replaced by the Constitution.*
- 3. The significant features of the Constitution and the major ways that the Constitution changes.*
- 4. The concept of federalism and how it has changed throughout American history.*
- 5. The significance of the Bill of Rights, and the continuing debate over civil liberties.*
- 6. The role of public opinion and the media in the American political system.*
- 7. The importance of the American political parties, lobbying, and interest groups.*
- 8. The American election process, including political campaigning and voter behavior.*
- 9. The formal structure of the Congress and the committee system, the legislative process, and congressional powers.*
- 10. The principal powers of the presidency and how they expanded dramatically in the 20th century.*
- 11. The American bureaucracy.*
- 12. The American judicial system and how it is affected by critical issues in American society. The organizational structure, powers, and challenges confronting California's state and local governments.*

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

1. Barbour, C. (2019). *AmGov: Long Story Short, Second Edition*. CQ Press.
ISBN: 9781071808979

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

Discussions Questions: (100 pts. total): Weekly discussion questions via canvas are an invaluable tool for enhancing your understanding of what you have read. The questions you answer should foster deeper thought or insight about your views or understanding of the topic. Ensure you plan accordingly to complete discussion questions as instructed.

Quizzes: (110 pts Total): Weekly quizzes via canvas are a vital tool to help students identify and grasp the understanding of the subject matter. Quizzes will be based on PowerPoints, readings, lectures, and supplemental canvas material. Ensure you plan accordingly to complete quizzes questions as instructed.

Mid-Term: (200 pts): The Mid-term will be on the first portion of the semester material administered via canvas. The mid-term will cover readings, videos, lectures, discussion questions and canvas supplemental material.

Government Paper: (75 pts) There will be a term paper due for this class. Students will be required to attend a Local Government Meeting online and write a 2 page, double-spaced report, in MLA format, of your first-hand observations of a local government meeting. The ideal report includes a record of elected officials verbal and nonverbal interactions amongst all persons present. Plan ahead, many local government meetings occur only once or twice a month.

Group Presentation: (75 pts) 4-5 people per group. Each group will be required to create a campaign. Your campaign's focus is to promote an issue that is important to the development of the Imperial Valley. You are required to create a campaign add, along with a campaign speech, to persuade your audience on the issue at hand. Each member of your group will be required to participate. Your group will be presenting the campaign to the class. It is your responsibility to make sure you make adequate arrangements to meet and work on your presentation for the best grade possible.

Video Summary Report: (40 pts.) You will have one Video Summary Report that will cover current events and social issues in politics that will provide explanations on how different events /issues affect our daily lives.

Final Examination: (200 pts) The final examination will be based on the second half of the semester material administered via canvas. The Final will cover readings, videos, lectures, discussion questions and canvas supplemental material.

Class Participation: (25 pts) Students are expected to participate in all class discussions. All students are encouraged to participate and voice their opinion in all Political issues. Political opinions can be very controversial since we each have our own values, traditions, and beliefs. Just remember to be respectful of all students.

Total: 825

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Grading Scale

- A= 90-100% 825-743 pts.
- B= 80-89% 742-660 pts.
- C= 70-79% 659-578 pts.
- D= 60-69% 577-495 pts.
- F = 59%-Below 494-000 pts.

Course Policies

Attendance

- *A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See General Catalog for details.*
- *Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absence exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped.*
- *For online courses, students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped.*
- *Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.*

Academic Honesty

- *Plagiarism is taking and presenting as one's own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to 'cite a source' correctly, you must ask for help.*
- *Cheating is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment, or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials that are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.*
- *Anyone caught cheating or will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the General School Catalog for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) plagiarism; (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment; (c) communicating test information with another person during an examination; (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment; (e) using a commercial term paper service.*

Classroom Behavior & Netiquette

- *Imperial Valley College is maintained for the purpose of providing students in the community with programs of instruction in higher education. Students shall assume an obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with the college's function as an educational institution. Students shall observe the rules and regulations of the College and shall refrain from conduct which interferes with the College's teaching and administration, or which unreasonably interferes with the rights of others. Please refer to the IVC General Catalog available online for further information regarding student conduct. www.imperial.edu*
- *What is netiquette? Netiquette is internet manners, online etiquette, and digital etiquette all rolled into one word. Basically, netiquette is a set of rules for behaving properly online.*
- *Students are to comply with the following rules of netiquette: (1) identify yourself, (2) include a subject line, (3) avoid sarcasm, (4) respect others' opinions and privacy, (5) acknowledge and return messages promptly, (6) copy with caution, (7) do not spam or junk mail, (8) be concise, (9) use appropriate language, (10) use appropriate emoticons (emotional icons) to help convey meaning, and (11) use appropriate intensifiers to help convey meaning [do not use ALL CAPS or multiple exclamation marks (!!!)].*



Late Work Policy

- *If for some reason you are going to be late or miss an assignment, timely communication via Canvas inbox is the best practice. This will allow sufficient time to discuss an alternative timetable for the required assignment.*
- *I will review late work requests and circumstances on a case by case basis and make decisions accordingly. If an emergency arises that prevents you from completing your work on time, please inbox me via Canvas as soon as possible.*
- *The late policy may be waived at the instructor's discretion in case of an emergency. Emergencies are defined as anything which is serious and unexpected.*

Communication

How You Can Contact Me:

- *Canvas Inbox (anytime)*
- *You can post your questions or comments on Canvas on Q&A Discussion*
- *E-mail- raul.navarro@imperial.edu*
- *Office # 760-355-6144 (leave a message or voicemail)*
- *Response time: I will respond within 24 hours, Monday- Friday.*

IVC Student Resources

IVC wants you to be successful in all aspects of your education. For help, resources, services, and an explanation of policies, visit <http://www.imperial.edu/studentresources> or click the heart icon in Canvas.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
Week 1 February 17	Syllabus & Introduction -Discussion: About You -Self Check Quiz	In class discussion
Week 2 February 22 - 24	Politics and Citizenship Ch. 1 AmGov: Long Story Short Lecture and Discussion	-Ch 1 reading pgs. 1-36 -Weekly Quiz #1 -Discussion Question - In class discussion
Week 3 March 01-03	The United States Founding Ch.2 AmGov: Long Story Short Lecture and Discussion	-Ch 2 reading pgs. 37-70 -Weekly Quiz #2 -Discussion Question - In class discussion
Week 4 March 08-10	Civil Liberties and Rights Ch. 3 AmGov: Long Story Short Lecture and Discussion	-Ch 3 reading pgs. 71-110 -Weekly Quiz #3 -Discussion Question - In class discussion
Week 5 March 15-17	The Legislative Branch Ch.4 AmGov: Long Story Short Lecture and Discussion	-Ch 4 reading pgs. 111-150 -Weekly Quiz #4 -Discussion Question - In class discussion



Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
Week 6 March 22-24	The Executive Branch Ch.5 AmGov: Long Story Short Lecture and Discussion	-Ch 5 reading pgs. 151-182 -Weekly Quiz #5 -Discussion Question - In class discussion
Week 7 March 29-31	-Midterm Review -Government Paper	- In class discussion
Week 8 April 05-07	No Class Spring Break	
Week 9 April 12-14	Mid-Term	
Week 10 April 19-21	The Judicial Branch Ch. 6 AmGov: Long Story Short Lecture and Discussion	-Ch 6 reading pgs. 183-214 -Weekly Quiz #6 -Discussion Question - In class discussion
Week 11 April 26-28	Parties and Interest Groups Ch. 7 AmGov: Long Story Short Lecture and Discussion	-Ch 7 reading pgs. 215-246 -Weekly Quiz #7 -Discussion Question - In class discussion
Week 12 May 03-05	Public Opinion, Campaigns, and Elections Ch. 8 AmGov: Long Story Short Lecture and Discussion	-Ch 8 reading pgs. 247-282 -Weekly Quiz #8 -Discussion Question - In class discussion
Week 13 May 10-12	Group Presentations	- In class discussion
Week 14 May 17-19	Media and Political Communication Ch. 9 AmGov: Long Story Short Lecture and Discussion	-Ch 9 reading pgs. 283-310 -Weekly Quiz #9 -Discussion Question - In class discussion
Week 15 May 24-26	Domestic and Foreign Policy Ch. 10 AmGov: Long Story Short Lecture and Discussion	-Ch 10 reading pgs. 311-346 -Weekly Quiz #10 -Discussion Question - In class discussion
Week 16 May 31-03	-No Class Monday, May 31, 2021-Memorial Day -Final Review -Video Summary Report	- In class discussion
Week 17 June 07-09	Final Exam	

Subject to change without prior notice